

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council
Ecosystem Based Fishery Management Guidance Document
Draft Outline (4/11/12)

Introduction

- Purpose and Need
- Goals and Objectives
- EBFM Definition
- EBFM Principles
- Scope of the EBFM Guidance Document

Description of Existing FMPs and Management Structure

- Description of Current FMPs and Managed Species
- Cross FMP Evaluation of Goals and Objectives
- Identification

Description of the Ecosystems

- Biological Features
- Oceanographic Features (physical, chemical)
- Historical and Current State of the Ecosystems
- Description of the Managed Fisheries
 - Social and Economic Dimensions

Ecosystems Assessment - Identification of Interactions

- Methodology
- Climate and Physical Drivers
- Biological interactions
 - Predator-prey relationships
 - Forage Species (special management considerations)
- Regulatory Interactions
- Non-Fishing Ecosystem Impacts

Transition Strategy to EBFM (taking interactions into account)

- Incorporation of EBFM elements into Council's Existing FMPs
- State of the Ecosystem(s) Report
- Long term strategic plan to fully incorporate ecosystem considerations in management
- Fisheries in Context of Marine Spatial Planning